

North Minneapolis Greenway Planning Project: Winter 2013 Community Input Report

Executive Summary

About the north Minneapolis greenway project

The City of Minneapolis is developing plans to convert a low-traffic street in north Minneapolis to a greenway, which is a safe, accessible route for bicyclists and pedestrians. Based on community input gathered in fall 2012, the City developed a proposed route and assigned proposed greenway designs along the route. The proposed route runs north-south primarily along Irving and Humboldt Avenues North, starting at the Shingle Creek Trail on the north end and ending just south of Plymouth Avenue North. Most of the route is proposed to be a *full “linear park” greenway* with no motorized traffic or a *“half and half” greenway* with both a trail and car traffic. This project was supported by the City of Minneapolis through the Statewide Health Improvement Program, funded by the Minnesota Department of Health.

Winter 2013 community input process

In January and February 2013, the City conducted a community engagement process to collect input on the proposed route and greenway types. City staff held a series of five neighborhood meetings for residents renting or owning property directly on the greenway route; held an open house; collected surveys at the neighborhood meetings, the open house, and online; and met with students at two schools located on or near the route.

Summary of community input

- 371 people completed surveys online, at neighborhood meetings, or at the open house, including 258 people who live in north Minneapolis and 108 people who live on the greenway route.
- Generally, respondents supported the proposed route and greenway types, including people who live directly on the route (see table to the right).
- Participants liked the greenway because of the potential for decreased crime, community revitalization, increased green place, better connections to community destinations, and increased recreational opportunities.
- Participants also shared concerns about the greenway, including costs, access to homes, impacts on the community, safety, maintenance,

Community survey results: Support for the greenway route and types		
	All respondents	Respondents living on route
Support for the greenway route	74% support/strongly support 14% oppose/strongly oppose 12% neutral	60% support/strongly support 23% oppose/strongly oppose 17% neutral
Support for the greenway types	73% support/strongly support 16% oppose/strongly oppose 11% neutral	62% support/strongly support 21% oppose/strongly oppose 17% neutral

and elements of the greenway design.

- Participants shared ideas for amenities and designs they would like to see in the greenway, such as art, Nice Ride kiosks, commercial development, and separation of bikes and pedestrians.
- There are more than 500 non-vacant properties located along the greenway route, most of which are single-family homes. Although 108 people living on the route have provided input, many more residents still need to be engaged in the planning process.

Project next steps

The City received additional funding from the Blue Cross Center for Prevention in July 2013 to continue the greenway planning process. These funds, which will be available for three years, will be used to develop more detailed plans, including some analysis of the whole route and more detailed plans for smaller segments of the route. Funds will also be used to conduct more in-depth community engagement and gather input from a larger number of community residents. If the planning process indicates that a greenway could be successfully built and utilized, the City can use the plans developed through this process to seek funds to construct the greenway.

How to get more information and stay connected

For more information, visit the project website at www.minneapolismn.gov/health/living/northminneapolisgreenway or contact Sarah Stewart (sarah.stewart@minneapolismn.gov, 612-673-3987). Anyone interested in being added to the project email list may also email Sarah with their contact information.



Funded by the Minnesota Department of Health through its Statewide Health Improvement Program.

If you need this material in an alternative format please call Ahmed Muhumud at (612) 673-2162 or email Ahmed.Muhumud@ci.minneapolis.mn.us
Deaf and hard-of-hearing persons may use a relay service to call 311 agents at (612) 673-3000. TTY users may call (612) 673-2157 or (612) 673-2626.

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